Weekly Compilation of

Presidential Documents

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(Continued on the inside of the back cover.)

Editor's Note: The President was at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, on October 3, the closing date of this issue. Releases and announcements issued by the Office of the Press Secretary but not received in time for inclusion in this issue will be printed next week.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Published every Monday by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408, the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* contains statements, messages, and other Presidential materials released by the White House during the preceding week.

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Week Ending Friday, October 3, 2008

Remarks Following a Meeting With Prime Minister Gordon Brown of the United Kingdom

September 26, 2008

President Bush. Mr. Prime Minister, welcome. The United States has got a great friendship with Great Britain, and you and I have worked hard to make sure that friendship stays strong. And I appreciate you coming down from New York, and I thank you for the consultations on this current economic issue.

What the Prime Minister wants to know is, is the plan we've devised big enough to make a difference, and is it going to be passed? And I told him the plan is big enough to make a difference, and I believe it is going to be passed. And I really want to thank you very much for staying in touch during this difficult period of time, not only for us but for people all around the world.

Secondly, we talked about trade. There's no stronger advocate for free and fair trade than Prime Minister Brown has been. And I appreciate your strong support for trade; because he knows what I know, that if—the best way to help deal with poverty and hopelessness is to give people opportunity through free and fair trade.

And so I thank your steadfast support on Doha. I told him that we are still optimistic that the Doha round can be reinvigorated, and we strategized as to how to do that. And I thank you for your advice on that.

Finally, we talked about Iraq and Afghanistan. Both our nations still have troops in those two countries. We're helping young democracies not only survive but grow and thrive. And I fully believe that when people look back at this period of history, they will say, thank goodness the United States and Great Britain stood strong, because we're helping to lay the foundation of peace for generations to come.

So I welcome you back to the Oval Office. Thank you for coming.

Prime Minister Brown. It's a great privilege to be here this afternoon. And I thank you for your hospitality, President Bush.

We talked about a number of issues: Iraq; Afghanistan; the trade talks; what's happening in Russia and in the—in Georgia; and about the general situation in the world economy. And we concentrated on the financial issues that are being raised in every country of the world by what's happening because of financial turbulence on the markets.

America and Britain have always stood together, and as one, in times of difficulty and challenge. And I said to President Bush this afternoon that facing this global turbulence, Britain supports the financial plan. And whatever the details of it, it's the right thing to do to take us through these difficult circumstances.

I was also able to tell President Bush that other countries whom I've talked to during the course of the last week in New York—every continent, all the members of the G–7, believe that America deserves the support of the rest of the world in the action it's taking to secure stability and to deal with the turbulence in the financial markets. And we will continue to support the administration and the government in everything that it's doing to try to restabilize the financial markets and to bring about economic growth in all our countries.

We also talked about what is the pathway forward. Our G–7 finance leaders—ministers will meet on October the 9th. The International Monetary Fund will meet on October the 10th. And the issues that have been raised by the problems in the financial system and the principles that might underlie future policy—transparency, good housekeeping, integrity, and at the same time, of course, international cooperation for the future—these are all issues that will be discussed in

detail by our finance ministers, and they will bring proposals for the future to us.

Stability is the first duty of governments, and we are determined that our continuing cooperation will enhance the stability of our economies and bring the prosperity that is what we want for every single citizen of the world.

President Bush. Thank you, Gordon. Good job.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:46 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Proclamation 8295—National Hunting and Fishing Day, 2008

September 26, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

From our rugged peaks and mountains to our shining seas, our Nation is blessed with remarkable natural treasures. These magnificent landscapes are places where families and friends can create lasting memories and enjoy the outdoors. On National Hunting and Fishing Day, our country honors the many contributions of America's hunters and anglers, who add to our heritage and keep our wildlife populations healthy and strong.

Our Nation's sportsmen and women are among our foremost conservationists. They care deeply about our wildlife habitats, and they have contributed billions of dollars to wildlife restoration through the Pittman-Robertson Act, which is a levy on certain sporting goods. This investment has helped restore many species, including the American elk, black bear, and wild turkey. Through the Federal Waterfowl Stamp program, the conservation of habitats for migratory birds has been greatly improved. By protecting our Nation's wildlife, we can continue to advance the values of good stewardship.

My Administration has created, protected, and restored millions of acres of wetlands. Through my Ocean Action Plan, we are protecting fish populations and marine habitat. I was pleased to amend Executive Order 12962 to recognize the value of recreational fishing as a sustainable activity in Federal waters. We have also improved the health of millions of acres of forests under the Healthy Forests Restoration Act. This important legislation is helping to protect our public lands from the risk of catastrophic wildfires and contributes to a healthier environment for all Americans.

On this special day, we remember our responsibility to preserve the great American landscape for future generations, and we celebrate the joy of hunting and fishing in the great outdoors.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim September 27, 2008, as National Hunting and Fishing Day. I call upon the people of the United States to join me in recognizing the contributions of America's hunters and anglers, and all those who work to conserve our Nation's fish and wildlife resources.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-sixth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:15 a.m., September 30, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on October 1. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Executive Order 13474—Amendments to Executive Order 12962

September 26, 2008

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to conserve, restore, and enhance aquatic systems to provide for increased recreational fishing opportunities nationwide, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Executive Order 12962 of June 7, 1995, is hereby amended: (a) in the preamble, by striking "and the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C 1801–1882)" and inserting before ", and other pertinent statutes," the following:

"the National Marine Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*), the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd–ee), the National Park Service Organic Act (16 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*), the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*), Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 *et seq.*), the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), the Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1451 *et seq.*), the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*)"; and

(b) by redesignating subsections (d) through (i) in section 1 as subsections (e) through (j), respectively, and inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection:

"(d) ensuring that recreational fishing shall be managed as a sustainable activity in national wildlife refuges, national parks, national monuments, national marine sanctuaries, marine protected areas, or any other relevant conservation or management areas or activities under any Federal authority, consistent with applicable law;".

Sec. 2. This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, by any party against the United States, its agencies, instrumentalities, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

George W. Bush

The White House,

September 26, 2008.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 30, 2008]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on October 1. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Message to the Senate Transmitting a Report and Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels

September 26, 2008

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to accession, I transmit herewith the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, with Annexes. In addition, I transmit for the information of the Senate the report of the Department of State, which includes a detailed analysis of the Agreement.

The Agreement, done at Canberra on June 19, 2001, and that entered into force on February 1, 2004, was adopted pursuant to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (the "Convention"), done at Bonn on June 23, 1979. Although the United States is not a Party to the Convention, the United States may nonetheless become a Party to the Agreement. The Agreement's objective is to achieve and maintain a favorable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels.

I believe the Agreement to be fully in the U.S. interest. Its provisions advance the U.S. goals of protecting albatrosses and petrels. As the Department of State's analysis explains, the Agreement is not self-executing and thus does not by itself give rise to domestically enforceable Federal law. Implementing legislation would be required, which will be submitted separately to the Congress for its consideration.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Agreement and give its advice and consent to accession.

George W. Bush

The White House,

September 26, 2008.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address
September 27, 2008

Good morning. This is an extraordinary period for America's economy. Many Americans are anxious about their finances and their future. On Wednesday, I spoke to the Nation and thanked Congress for working with my administration to address the instability in our financial system. On Thursday, I hosted Senator McCain, Senator Obama, and congressional leaders from both parties at the White House to discuss the urgency of passing a bipartisan rescue package for our economy.

The problems in our economy are extremely complex, but at their core is uncertainty over mortgage-backed securities. Many of these financial assets relate to home mortgages that have lost value during the housing decline. In turn, the banks holding these assets have restricted credit, and businesses and consumers have found it more difficult to obtain affordable loans. As a result, our entire economy is in danger. So I proposed that the Federal Government reduce the risk posed by these troubled assets and supply urgently needed money to help banks and other financial institutions avoid collapse and resume lending.

I know many of you listening this morning are frustrated with the situation. You make sacrifices every day to meet your mortgage payments and keep up with your bills. When the government asks you to pay for mistakes on Wall Street, it does not seem fair, and I understand that. And if it were possible to let every irresponsible firm on Wall Street fail without affecting you and your family, I would do it. But that is not possible. The failure of the financial system would mean financial hardship for many of you.

The failure of the financial system would cause banks to stop lending money to one another and to businesses and consumers. That would make it harder for you to take out a loan or borrow money to expand a business. The result would be less economic growth and more American jobs lost. And that would put our economy on the path toward a deep and painful recession.

The rescue effort we're negotiating is not aimed at Wall Street; it is aimed at your street. And there is now widespread agreement on the major principles. We must free up the flow of credit to consumers and businesses by reducing the risk posed by troubled assets. We must ensure that taxpayers are protected, that failed executives do not receive a windfall from your tax dollars, and that there is a bipartisan board to oversee these efforts.

Under the proposal my administration sent to Congress, the government would spend up to $700 billion to buy troubled assets from banks and other financial institutions. I know many Americans understand the urgency of this action but are concerned about such a high price tag. Well, let me address this directly.

The final cost of this plan will be far less than $700 billion. And here's why: As fear and uncertainty have gripped the market for mortgage-related assets, their price has dropped sharply. Yet many of these assets still have significant underlying value, because the vast majority of people will eventually pay off their mortgages. In other words, many of the assets the government would buy are likely to go up in price over time. This means that the government will be able to recoup much, if not all, of the original expenditure.

Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle have contributed constructive proposals that have improved this plan. I appreciate the efforts of House and Senate Democratic and Republican leaders to bring a spirit of bipartisan cooperation to these discussions. Our Nation's economic well-being is an issue that transcends partisanship. Republicans and Democrats must continue to address it together. And I am confident that we will pass a bill to protect the financial security of every American very soon.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 7:10 a.m. on September 27 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on September 27. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on the morning of September 27 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. In his address, the President referred to Republican Presidential nominee John McCain; and Democratic Presidential nominee Barack Obama. The Office of the Press Secretary

also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Statement on House of Representatives Passage of India-United States Nuclear Cooperation and Nonproliferation Legislation

September 27, 2008

I congratulate the House of Representatives for passing H.R. 7081, the United States-India Nuclear Cooperation Approval and Nonproliferation Enhancement Act. The passage of this legislation by the House is another major step forward in achieving the transformation of the U.S.-India relationship.

I thank the Members of Congress who helped to pass this legislation, especially House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Howard Berman (D–CA) and Ranking Member Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R–FL). In addition, I would like to recognize the contributions of two great Americans and legislators, Congressmen Tom Lantos and Henry Hyde, who saw early on the importance of a strategic partnership with India and of bringing the people of our two great nations together through this initiative.

I urge the Senate to quickly take up and pass this important piece of legislation before their October adjournment. Signing this bipartisan bill will help strengthen our partnership with India.

Statement on Congressional Action on Economic Stabilization Legislation

September 28, 2008

Today a bipartisan group of Members of Congress, working with my administration, reached agreement on economic rescue legislation that is urgently needed to address a crisis in our financial system that threatens the entire U.S. economy.

I appreciate the leadership shown by Members on both sides of the aisle, who came together to write a very good bill. This bill provides the necessary tools and funding to help protect our economy against a systemwide breakdown. The bill will help allow access to credit so American families can meet their daily needs and American businesses can make purchases, ship goods, and meet their payrolls. And this plan sends a strong signal to markets around the world that the United States is serious about restoring confidence and stability to our financial system. Without this rescue plan, the costs to the American economy could be disastrous.

Many Members of Congress contributed important ideas to improve the legislation my administration proposed. I appreciate the negotiators considering those ideas and incorporating them in this agreement.

Members of Congress will vote on this legislation soon. This is a difficult vote, but with the improvements made to the bill, I am confident Congress will do what is best for our economy by approving this legislation promptly.

NOTE: The statement referred to H.R. 3997.

Remarks on Economic Stabilization Legislation

September 29, 2008

Good morning. Yesterday leaders here in Washington reached an extraordinary agreement to deal with an extraordinary problem in our economy. Working closely with my administration, congressional leaders from both parties produced the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act, a bold bill that will help keep the crisis in our financial system from spreading throughout our economy.

This legislation deals with complex issues, and negotiators were asked to address them in a very short period of time. I appreciate the leadership of Members on both sides of the aisle who came together when our Nation was counting on them. Negotiations are sometimes difficult, but their hard work and cooperation paid off.

The bipartisan economic rescue plan addresses the root cause of the financial crisis, the assets related to home mortgages that have lost value during the housing decline. Under the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act, the Federal Government will be authorized to purchase these assets from banks and other financial institutions, which will

help free them to resume lending to businesses and consumers.

The bill also includes other important ideas put forward by Members of Congress from both parties. For example, the bill requires the establishment of a guarantee program that will insure assets at no cost to the taxpayer. The bill provides strong, bipartisan oversight, so Americans can be certain that their tax dollars are used carefully and wisely. The bill ensures that failed executives do not receive a windfall from your tax dollars.

With this strong and decisive legislation, we will help restart the flow of credit so American families can meet their daily needs and American businesses can make purchases, ship goods, and meet their payrolls. We'll make clear that the United States is serious about restoring confidence and stability in our financial system.

I know many Americans are worried about the cost of the bill, and I understand their concern. This bill commits up to 700 billion taxpayer dollars, because a large amount of money is necessary to have an impact on our financial system. However, both the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office and the Office of Management and Budget expect that the ultimate cost to the taxpayer will be far less than that. In fact, we expect that over time, much, if not all, of the tax dollars we invest will be paid back.

Now that this legislation has been agreed to by leaders of both parties, it must be passed by Houses—both Houses of Congress. And I fully understand that this will be a difficult vote. But with the improvements made to this bill, I'm confident that members of both parties will support it. Congress can send a strong signal to markets at home and abroad by passing this bill promptly. Every Member of Congress and every American should keep in mind: A vote for this bill is a vote to prevent economic damage to you and your community.

This has been a volatile time for our financial system and our economy. Even with the important steps we're taking to address the current crisis, we will continue to face serious challenges. The impact of the credit crisis and the housing correction will continue to pressure our financial system and impact the growth of our economy for some time. But I'm confident that this rescue plan, along with other measures taken by the Treasury Department and the Federal Reserve, will begin to restore strength and stability to America's financial system and overall economy. And I'm confident that in the long run, America will overcome these challenges and remain the most dynamic and productive economy in the world.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:34 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to H.R. 3997. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Remarks on Presenting the 2007 National Medals of Science and Technology and Innovation

September 29, 2008

Please be seated. Thanks. Welcome. This is a joyous day for the White House as we honor some of our Nation's most gifted and visionary men and women. I congratulate you all on your achievements. I'm looking forward to presenting you with the National Medals of Science and Technology and Innovation. And I welcome your friends, but most importantly, I welcome your family members. We are glad you're here, and thank you for standing by these—by the side of these pioneers and doers and achievers.

I want to thank members of the administration who've joined us, particularly Deputy Secretary John Sullivan; Dr. Arden Bement, Director of the National Science Foundation. I welcome the chairs and members of the 2007 and 2008 nominating committees. These recipients welcome you as well. [*Laughter*] They appreciate your good judgment. [*Laughter*] And I welcome the previous medal recipients who are here. But most of all, thank you all for coming.

You know, it's very interesting that we're having this in the East Room. It turns out that Thomas Jefferson reportedly used this room as a place to lay out his fossils. [*Laughter*] Three hundred fossils and bones were catalogued right here in the East Room, including a tusk of nearly 10 feet. Barney has

been looking for that tusk for a long time. [*Laughter*]

Anyway, our history is rich with pioneers and innovators who have used their God-given talents to improve our Nation. After all, it was Benjamin Franklin who invented the bifocals, and you will see his picture hanging here in the White House, or Alexander Graham Bell and the telephone.

Creative men and women are building on the foundation laid by those geniuses, and the same thing is going to happen in the future with the foundation laid by these geniuses. I mean, after all, Franklin's bifocals are giving way to LASIK surgery—[*laughter*]—and Alexander Graham Bell's telephone plays MP3s. [*Laughter*]

We're proud to honor a new generation of people who have strived for excellence; people whose discoveries have changed America and the world. And that's what we're here to honor: discovery and hard work and creative minds.

The men and women we honor here hold more than 100 patents. They are the leaders in business and industry. They public—publish influential books. They chair academic departments in some of our country's finest universities. Our honorees have made breakthroughs in the range of—in a range of fields, including polymer chemistry, neurobiology, condensed matter physics—all a little esoteric for a history major, I might add. [*Laughter*]

Each of our honorees has extended the frontiers of knowledge, and in so doing, they've inspired a wave of innovation. We're an innovative society, and one of the main reasons why is we got very capable people who are willing to use their talents to push for new innovations. The work has helped inspire new medicines to treat diseases, strengthen security in Americans' airports, build new jet engines. They have helped create a global marketplace through a single phrase: "Find it on eBay." [*Laughter*]

Each of these folks up here has earned the appreciation of our country. And one way to express our appreciation is to present a medal, and that's what we're doing.

I do want to thank the members of our academic community for helping youngsters understand the importance of math and science and engineering. Today we've got students from Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Banneker Academic High Schools. And I know that some of the recipients here took time out to inspire, and I hope scientists and mathematicians and engineers all across the country will serve as mentors and role models to encourage young folks to take a serious interest in academics—in the academic of engineering and physics and sciences and biology, so that some day another American President will be able to hang a medal around their neck.

All in all, this is an important day for our country, because it reminds people that innovation and science are important for our future and that good education is important for that future as well. I want to thank you all again for your many contributions to our Nation. I want to thank you all for coming to witness this important ceremony.

And now I ask the military aide to read the citations.

[*At this point, Maj. Curtis Buzzard, USA, Army Military Aide to the President, read the citations, and the President presented the medals.*]

NOTE: The President spoke at 10 a.m. in the East Room at the White House.

Remarks Following a Meeting With President Valdas Adamkus of Lithuania

September 29, 2008

President Bush. I'm honored to welcome my friend the President of Lithuania here to the Oval. Welcome back, Mr. President. I've come to admire your courage, your straightforwardness, and the job you've done for your country.

President Adamkus. Thank you.

President Bush. I have enjoyed working with you on a variety of issues. Lithuania's ascension into NATO is a very important part of our foreign policy, yours and mine. It's important for the people of Lithuania to know that when the United States makes a commitment through, for example, Article 5 of the treaty, we mean it. I'm proud of the

alliance we've established and your contribution to that alliance.

We also talked about Georgia-Russia and the need for, you know, democracies to be able to stand on their own feet without fear of bullying. And you've made some very courageous statements on that issue, and I appreciate that very much.

We talked about energy independence, and you explained to me your situation with your present power and your future strategies. And I want to thank you very much for being forthright with your strategy and understanding that the more independent you are from an energy perspective, the more independent you are from a political perspective. And I thought that was very wise, and we'll try to help you as best as we can.

And finally, our hope and—is that by mid-October, there will be visa waiver granted to the citizens of Lithuania. You've worked hard for that issue, and it's—I think you can take back to your people a very positive report about this very important initiative. And you and your government deserve a lot of credit for it.

All in all, I've really enjoyed working with you. There's a lot more to do in 4 months, and I plan on doing it. And I know you and I will be, you know, working together. So thank you very much for coming.

President Adamkus. Thank you, Mr. President. First of all, I would like to express the gratitude by the entire Lithuanian nation for your constant support, and if that would not be for you, I don't believe we would be the members of NATO, and that the entire security question in the region would be at doubt.

President Bush. Thank you.

President Adamkus. Now, we definitely have some problems, like you just indicated with the press, about energy. We're trying to resolve it. Hopefully, we will, with your help. And since we need United States presence more as I indicated to you, European Union is coming up with own foreign policies and policies for Europe. But without United States presence, definitely that will be job not completed. So I hope that the United States will be visible, just like I ask you if the United States will be more visible in the Baltic region over there, just to show our neighbors that we're definitely not alone.

And we are building the democracy together, not I mean by individually, state by state. And all those years I have worked with you, here, those over there—memorable, great years. Thank you very much, on behalf of all the Lithuanian people.

President Bush. Thank you, sir. Thank you. Yes.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:50 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House.

Remarks Following a Meeting With President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine

September 29, 2008

President Bush. I was disappointed in the vote with the United States Congress on the economic rescue plan. We put forth a plan that was big because we got a big problem. I'm going to be talking to my economic advisers after my meeting here with the President, and we'll be working with Members of Congress—leaders of Congress on the way forward. Our strategy is to continue to address this situation—economic situation head on. And we'll be working to develop a strategy that will enable us to continue to move forward.

Mr. President, welcome. I welcome you here to the Oval Office. I admire your steadfast support for democratic values and principles. A lot of Americans have watched with amazement how your country became a democracy. We strongly support your democracy. We look forward to working with you to strengthen that democracy.

You and I just had a good discussion about a variety of issues. We discussed, you know, the NATO and the membership application process. We discussed energy independence. We discussed ways that we can work together to bring stability and peace to parts of the world. And I thank you for joining us here in Washington in the Oval Office, and I send my respects to the people of Ukraine.

President Yushchenko. First of all, Mr. President, I would like to thank for the atmosphere that our negotiations were held in.

We had our conversation in a very constructive manner. We touched upon the range of issues, starting from our bilateral relations, and the implementation of U.S.-Ukraine action plan. And we consider this roadmap as being implemented in a successful way. A lot of attention was paid to security component and security itself, and a special attention was paid towards Ukraine integration into European and Euro-Atlantic structures.

We raised the issue of energy cooperation, which is a very urgent issue for us. And we believe that we've done excellent job on the adaptation of American nuclear fuel for our nuclear power units, and we intend to continue that.

We also discussed the domestic political situation in Ukraine, which in my opinion is far away from being tragic, and nondramatic. Ukraine has enough democratic resource and tools to give sufficient response to any crisis that may occur in the Ukrainian Parliament. And this is probably where the Ukrainian strength and optimism is.

I also asked Mr. President to delegate the high-ranking delegation from the United States of America to participate in the commemorating events of the great famine in Ukraine of 1932 and 1933. The commemoration day will be on November the 22d, and this will be the commemoration of the biggest humanitarian catastrophe in our country. And we need to do everything for that issue to be included in the UNGA agenda.

President Bush. Thank you, sir.

President Yushchenko. Thank you.

President Bush. You're welcome.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:25 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. President Yushchenko spoke in Ukrainian, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

Message on the Observance of Rosh Hashanah, 5769

September 29, 2008

I send greetings to those celebrating Rosh Hashanah.

On this occasion of spiritual reflection, people of the Jewish faith in our country and around the world recognize the blessings from the Almighty as they commemorate the anniversary of the creation of the world. During this holy time, men and women take time to remember the past, contemplate the sweetness of the new year, and look forward to a promising future.

This special occasion is also an opportunity to celebrate the history of the Jewish people and the values that bind us all together.

Laura and I send our best wishes for a meaningful Rosh Hashanah and L'shanah tovah.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

Memorandum on Use of the Exchange Stabilization Fund To Support the Money Market Mutual Fund Guaranty Facility

September 29, 2008

Memorandum for the Secretary of the Treasury

Subject: Use of the Exchange Stabilization Fund to Support the Money Market Mutual Fund Guaranty Facility

Pursuant to section 10(b) of the Gold Reserve Act of 1934, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 5302(b), I approve the use of funds from the Exchange Stabilization Fund as a guaranty facility for certain money market mutual funds, consistent with your recommendation to me and the terms and conditions set out in your memorandum to me dated September 26, 2008. This memorandum supersedes the Presidential Memorandum of September 19, 2008, entitled, "Use of the Department of Treasury's Exchange Stabilization Fund to Support a Guaranty Facility for Certain Money Market Mutual Funds."

George W. Bush

Remarks on Economic Stabilization Legislation

September 30, 2008

Good morning. Yesterday the House of Representatives voted on a financial rescue

plan that had been negotiated by congressional leaders of both parties and my administration. Unfortunately, the measure was defeated by a narrow margin. I'm disappointed by the outcome, but I assure our citizens and citizens around the world that this is not the end of the legislative process.

Producing legislation is complicated, and it can be contentious. It matters little what a path a bill takes to become law; what matters is that we get a law. We're at a critical moment for our economy, and we need legislation that decisively address the troubled assets now clogging the financial system, helps lenders resume the flow of credit to consumers and businesses, and allows the American economy to get moving again.

I recognize this is a difficult vote for Members of Congress. Many of them don't like the fact that our economy has reached this point, and I understand that. But the reality is that we are in an urgent situation, and the consequences will grow worse each day if we do not act. The dramatic drop in the stock market that we saw yesterday will have a direct impact on the retirement accounts, pension funds, and personal savings of millions of our citizens. And if our Nation continues on this course, the economic damage will be painful and lasting.

And I know many Americans are especially worried about the cost of the legislation. The bill the House considered yesterday commits up to 700 billion taxpayer dollars to purchase troubled assets from banks and other financial institutions. That, no question, is a large amount of money. We're also dealing with a large problem. But to put that in perspective, the drop in the stock market yesterday represented more than a trillion dollars in losses.

Furthermore, both the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office and the Office of Management and Budget expect that the legislation considered would ultimately cost the taxpayer far less than the 700 billion, because the Government would be purchasing troubled assets and selling them once the market recovers. It is likely that many of the assets would go up in value over time. Ultimately, we expect that much, if not all, of the tax dollars we invest will be paid back.

As much as we might wish the situation were different, our country is not facing a choice between government action and the smooth functioning of the free market. We're facing a choice between action and the real prospect of economic hardship for millions of Americans. And for the financial security of every American, Congress must act.

My administration will continue to work closely with leaders of both parties on Capitol Hill. I appreciate their determined efforts. While Congress is out today for the Jewish holiday, my administration will be talking to congressional leaders today about how we can move legislation forward when Members begin returning to the Capitol tomorrow. Our economy is depending on decisive action from the Government. The sooner we address the problem, the sooner we can get back on the path of growth and job creation. This is what elected leaders owe the American people, and I am confident we'll deliver.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:45 a.m. in the Diplomatic Reception Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to H.R. 3997. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Statement on Signing the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009

September 30, 2008

Today I have signed into law H.R. 2638, the "Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009." The Act, consisting of five divisions, consolidates into a single Act several appropriations bills. It provides through emergency supplemental appropriations additional Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 resources needed for relief and recovery from hurricanes, floods, and other disasters, and other supplemental appropriations.

The Act also includes full-year FY 2009 appropriations for the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security and for Military Construction and Veterans Affairs. Furthermore, the Act provides

FY 2009 appropriations to continue operations of the Federal Government through March 6, 2009, for projects and activities not otherwise covered in the full-year bills. This Act lifts the legislative moratoria on oil and gas leasing on significant portions of the Outer Continental Shelf and the prohibition on the completion of regulations for commercial leasing of oil shale, which will allow us to reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

I am disappointed that the Congress passed a long-term continuing resolution. There is much work to be done, and the Congress should not adjourn for the year without finishing important business on spending, taxes, and free trade agreements.

Finally, this legislation contains certain provisions similar to those found in prior appropriations bills passed by the Congress that might be construed to be inconsistent with my Constitutional responsibilities. To avoid such potential infirmities, the executive branch will interpret and construe such provisions in the same manner as I have previously stated in regard to similar provisions.

George W. Bush

The White House,
September 30, 2008.

NOTE: H.R. 2638, approved September 30, was assigned Public Law No. 110–329.

Message on the Observance of Eid al-Fitr

September 30, 2008

I send greetings to Muslims everywhere celebrating Eid al-Fitr, the Festival of Breaking the Fast.

During the three-day festival of Eid al-Fitr, Muslims celebrate the completion of their fast and the blessings of a renewed faith. On this special occasion, families and friends around the globe gather to share traditional foods and congratulate each other on meeting the test of Ramadan.

Our Nation has millions of citizens who practice Islam, and our country benefits from their many contributions. This holiday is also an opportunity for Muslims to reflect on Islam's vibrant culture, which has enriched civilization for centuries.

Laura and I send our best wishes. Eid Mubarak.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

Proclamation 8296—To Modify Duty-Free Treatment Under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act and For Other Purposes

September 30, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

1. Section 213A(b) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)) (the "CBERA"), as amended by section 15402(a)(2) of the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act of 2008 (part 1 of subtitle D of title XV of Public Law 110–246, 122 Stat. 2289) (the "HOPE II Act"), provides that preferential tariff treatment may be provided for certain apparel and other articles originating in Haiti that are imported directly from Haiti or the Dominican Republic into the customs territory of the United States.

2. Pursuant to section 213A(f)(3) of CBERA (19 U.S.C. 2703a(f)(3)), as redesignated by section 15403(2) of the HOPE II Act (122 Stat. 2302), apparel and other articles described in section 213A(b) of CBERA that are shipped from the Dominican Republic to the United States directly or through the territory of an intermediate country shall not qualify for the preferential tariff treatment provided for under section 213A(b) until the President certifies to the Congress that Haiti and the Dominican Republic have developed procedures to prevent unlawful transshipment of the articles and the use of counterfeit documents related to the importation of the articles into the United States.

3. I have determined, and hereby certify, that Haiti and the Dominican Republic have developed the procedures described in section 213A(f)(3) of CBERA.

4. Section 15406 of the HOPE II Act (122 Stat. 2308) authorizes the President to exercise the authority provided under section 604 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2483) (the "1974 Act"), to proclaim such modifications to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) as may be necessary to carry out the HOPE II Act.

5. I have determined that it is appropriate to authorize the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to perform the following functions: the functions set forth in section 213A(d)(4) of CBERA, as amended (122 Stat. 2307; 19 U.S.C. 2703a(d)(4)); the reporting function set forth in section 213A(e)(1)(B)(ii) of CBERA, as amended (122 Stat. 2302; 19 U.S.C. 2703a(e)(1)(B)(ii)); the consultation function set forth in section 213A(e)(1)(C)(i) of CBERA, as amended (122 Stat. 2302–3; 19 U.S.C. 2703a(e)(1)(C)(i)); and the functions set forth in section 213A(e)(5) of CBERA, as amended (122 Stat. 2307; 19 U.S.C. 2703a(e)(5)).

6. I have determined that it is appropriate to authorize the Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the USTR, to perform the functions related to identifying producers and seeking to provide assistance to such producers set forth in section 213A(e)(4)(B)(i) and (ii) of CBERA, as amended (122 Stat. 2306; 19 U.S.C. 2703a(e)(4)(B)(i), (ii)).

7. In Presidential Proclamation 8272 of June 30, 2008, I waived, pursuant to section 503(d)(1) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(d)(1)), the application of the competitive need limitations in section 503(c)(2)(A) of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2463(c)(2)(A)) with respect to certain articles from Turkey. A technical rectification to the HTS is required to provide the intended tariff treatment.

8. Section 604 of the 1974 Act authorizes the President to embody in the HTS the substance of relevant provisions of that Act, or other acts affecting import treatment, and of actions taken thereunder.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, acting under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 15406 of the HOPE II Act, section 604 of the 1974 Act, and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, do proclaim that:

(1) In order to provide the tariff treatment for articles imported directly from Haiti or the Dominican Republic provided for in section 213A(b) of CBERA, as amended by the HOPE II Act, the HTS is modified as set forth in the Annex to this proclamation.

(2) The modifications to the HTS set forth in the Annex to this proclamation shall be effective with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the date set forth in the Annex.

(3) The USTR is hereby authorized to perform the functions set forth in section 213A(d)(4) of CBERA; the reporting function set forth in section 213A(e)(1)(B)(ii) of CBERA; the consultation function set forth in section 213A(e)(1)(C)(i) of CBERA; and the functions set forth in section 213A(e)(5) of CBERA.

(4) The Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the USTR, is hereby authorized to perform the functions related to identifying producers and seeking to provide assistance to such producers set forth in section 213A(e)(4)(B)(i) and (ii) of CBERA.

(5) In order to correct technical errors in Presidential Proclamation 8272, General Note 4(d) of the HTS is modified by deleting "7413.00.50 Turkey," and the Rates of Duty 1-Special subcolumn for HTS subheading 7413.00.50 is modified by deleting the symbol "A*" and inserting the symbol "A" in lieu thereof, effective with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after July 1, 2008.

(6) The USTR shall notify the Congress of this proclamation and certification.

(7) Any provisions of previous proclamations and Executive Orders that are inconsistent with the actions taken in this proclamation are superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 2, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation and its attached annex were published in the *Federal Register* on October 3.

Memorandum on FY 2009 Refugee Admissions Numbers and Authorizations of In-Country Refugee Status

September 30, 2008

Presidential Determination No. 2008–29

Memorandum for the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security

Subject: Fiscal Year 2009 Refugee Admissions Numbers and Authorizations of In-Country Refugee Status Pursuant to Sections 207 and 101(a)(42), Respectively, of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and Determination Pursuant to Section 2(b)(2) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act, as Amended

In accordance with section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the "Act") (8 U.S.C. 1157), as amended, and after appropriate consultations with the Congress, I hereby make the following determinations and authorize the following actions:

The admission of up to 80,000 refugees to the United States during Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 is justified by humanitarian concerns or is otherwise in the national interest; provided, however, that this number shall be understood as including persons admitted to the United States during FY 2009 with Federal refugee resettlement assistance under the Amerasian immigrant admissions program, as provided below. The ceiling shall be construed as a maximum not to be exceeded and not a minimum to be achieved.

The 80,000 admissions numbers shall be allocated among refugees of special humanitarian concern to the United States in accordance with the following regional allocations; provided, however, that the number of admissions allocated to the East Asia region shall include persons admitted to the United States during FY 2009 with Federal refugee resettlement assistance under section 584 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act of 1988, as contained in section 101(e) of Public Law 100–202 (Amerasian immigrants and their family members):

Africa 12,000
East Asia 19,000
Europe and Central Asia . . 2,500
Latin America/Caribbean . . 4,500
Near East/South Asia 37,000
Unallocated Reserve 5,000

The 5,000 unallocated refugee numbers shall be allocated to regional ceilings, as needed. Upon providing notification to the Judiciary Committees of the Congress, the Secretary of State is hereby authorized to use unallocated admissions in regions where the need for additional admissions arises.

Additionally, upon notification to the Judiciary Committees of the Congress, the Secretary of State is further authorized to transfer unused admissions allocated to a particular region to one or more other regions, if there is a need for greater admissions for the region or regions to which the admissions are being transferred. Consistent with section 2(b)(2) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended, I hereby determine that assistance to or on behalf of persons applying for admission to the United States as part of the overseas refugee admissions program will contribute to the foreign policy interests of the United States and designate such persons for this purpose.

Consistent with section 101(a)(42) of the Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(42)), and after appropriate consultation with the Congress, I also specify that, for FY 2009, the following persons may, if otherwise qualified, be considered refugees for the purpose of admission to the United States within their countries of nationality or habitual residence:

a. Persons in Vietnam
b. Persons in Cuba
c. Persons in the former Soviet Union
d. Persons in Iraq
e. In exceptional circumstances, persons identified by a United States Embassy in any location

The Secretary of State is authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress immediately and to publish it in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:30 a.m., October 6, 2008]

NOTE: This memorandum will be published in the *Federal Register* on October 7.

Remarks Following a Briefing on the Security Situation in Afghanistan

October 1, 2008

I want to thank General McKiernan for giving me a briefing on Afghanistan.

Economic Stabilization Legislation

Before I talk about our visit, I do want to say this: I appreciate Senator Harry Reid's leadership in the United States Senate when it comes to the financial rescue plan. I also appreciate Mitch McConnell's leadership as well. The Senate will be voting on a very important measure tonight. It's a—the rescue plan—the bill has been improved by raising—well, by other things, raising—temporarily raising the cap of—on FDIC insurance.

It's very important for Members to take this bill very seriously. It's important to get credit flowing again so that small businesses in our communities will be able to finance their operations, so that local municipalities will be able to get the money they need to take care of the needs of local citizens, so that States will be able to meet their needs.

It's very important for us to pass this piece of legislation so as to stabilize the situation, so that it doesn't get worse and that our fellow citizens lose wealth and work.

The Senate is going to take this bill up tonight. I'm hopeful they'll pass it, and then the House will have a chance to vote on it Friday morning. As I say, the bill is different, it's been improved, and I'm confident it will pass.

Situation in Afghanistan

General, thank you for coming. I appreciate your service to the country. General McKiernan is briefing me on the situation in Afghanistan, what he is going to need to make sure that we continue helping this young democracy succeed.

Obviously, this is a situation where there's been progress, and there are difficulties. There's been progress when you consider the fact that millions of young girls go to school that didn't have a chance to go to school before in Afghanistan. That's incredible progress. There's progress when you realize that health care needs are being met for the first time in—around Afghanistan. There's progress when there are roads being built so farmers can get product to market. That's progress.

There's difficulties, of course, because killers can't stand this progress. And the general's job is to work with, obviously, not only our troops but the thousands of troops from NATO countries there to provide the security so the progress continues. And there's been some tough fighting, and we honor our American troops who have sacrificed so that Afghanistan never becomes a safe haven again for extremists who would harm our citizens.

We talked about the comprehensive strategy necessary to succeed. I've announced more troops for Afghanistan, and the general, of course, is continuing to assess his needs. But we also must make sure there's a civilian component that runs alongside our military, that there's good governance, and that there's aid programs that are effective and focused on the people of Afghanistan, and that the infrastructure progress continues to be made.

And so I want to thank you for your service; thank you for your candid briefing, General. I want to thank your family as well as all the other families who are standing by the—those who wear the uniform, as this Nation continues to defend her own security and defend young democracies.

General, you and your troops are laying the foundation for peace. You're making a sacrifice today so that future generations of Americans don't have to worry about harm coming from a place like Afghanistan, and future generations of Afghans can grow up in a hopeful society. And I'm proud to be your Commander in Chief.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:01 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Gen. David D. McKiernan, USA, commander, NATO International Security Assistance Force, Afghanistan. He also referred to H.R. 1424.

Statement on Senate Action on Economic Stabilization Legislation

October 1, 2008

I applaud the Senate for its strong bipartisan vote in favor of the financial rescue plan. I especially appreciate the efforts of Majority Leader Harry Reid, Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, Senators Chris Dodd and Judd Gregg, and the senior members of the relevant committees from both parties. They worked across the aisle to make vital improvements to the rescue package I sent Congress last month, including an expansion of deposit insurance that will help protect the savings of American families and small businesses.

The bill the Senate passed is essential to the financial security of every American. It is aimed at helping American families who need to borrow money to buy a car or fund a college education. It is aimed at helping small businesses that depend on financing to meet their payrolls and stock their shelves. And it is aimed at helping State and local governments that rely on the credit markets to fund basic services and meet the needs of their citizens.

The House will now take up this rescue legislation. With the improvements the Senate has made, I believe members of both parties in the House can support this legislation. The American people expect, and our economy demands, that the House pass this good bill this week and send it to my desk.

NOTE: The statement referred to H.R. 1424.

Statement on Senate Passage of India-United States Nuclear Cooperation and Nonproliferation Legislation

October 1, 2008

I congratulate the Senate on passing the United States-India Nuclear Cooperation Approval and Nonproliferation Enhancement Act, H.R. 7081. In particular, I commend the members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for their leadership in crafting this important bipartisan legislation. I also thank Majority Leader Reid and Minority Leader McConnell for bringing this bill to a vote prior to the Senate's adjournment. This legislation will strengthen our global nuclear nonproliferation efforts, protect the environment, create jobs, and assist India in meeting its growing energy needs in a responsible manner.

I look forward to signing this bill into law and continuing to strengthen the U.S.-India strategic partnership.

Proclamation 8297—National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, 2008

October 1, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

During National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we underscore our commitment to fighting and preventing this devastating disease. Breast cancer is one of the most common types of cancer among women, and we must strengthen our support of those who are living with this disease while continuing to work toward a cure.

Breast cancer can be attributed to many factors, including age, genetics, obesity, and family history. Women who exercise regularly, maintain healthy diets, and have yearly visits with their doctors are less likely to get breast cancer. Various screening measures such as mammograms, regular breast self-exams, and clinical breast exams can help detect cancer before it has a chance to spread. Early detection allows for early intervention, helps make treatment more effective, and gives hope to patients and saves lives.

America leads the world in medical research, and my Administration will continue to support efforts to treat and cure breast cancer. Since 2005, the Cancer Genome Atlas has studied the genetic sources of all types of cancer, and last year, I signed the "National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program Reauthorization Act of 2007," which will help millions of low-income and uninsured women get the screenings they need to detect cancer early. First Lady Laura Bush has encouraged women around the world to take charge of

their health and emphasized the importance of screenings and early detection. In partnership with Federal agencies, State health agencies, and other medical professionals, my Administration has taken action to improve our Nation's healthcare system and helped promote the prevention, detection, and treatment of breast cancer.

This month, we honor those currently battling the disease and all who have survived the fight against breast cancer. We are inspired by their strength and determination. We recognize and applaud the hard-working caregivers and researchers who are dedicated to providing comfort and assistance to those with breast cancer and to treating and curing this disease. We also remember those lost to breast cancer and extend our thoughts and prayers to their families.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 2008 as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I call upon Government officials, businesses, communities, health care professionals, educators, volunteers, and the people of the United States to continue our Nation's strong commitment to preventing, treating, and ultimately curing breast cancer.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 3, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on October 6.

Proclamation 8298—National Disability Employment Awareness Month, 2008

October 1, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

During National Disability Employment Awareness Month, we reaffirm our commitment to ensuring that our Nation's promise extends to all our citizens.

Millions of Americans live with disabilities, and many other Americans will become disabled at some point in their lives. To integrate people with disabilities more fully into every aspect of life, our country is working to advance greater freedoms at work, in schools, and throughout communities. By expanding employment opportunities and fighting false perceptions that hinder people living with disabilities from joining the workforce, we can uphold America's moral values, strengthen our economy, and make America a more hopeful place.

More than 7 years ago, my Administration announced the New Freedom Initiative, which expanded upon the landmark reforms of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Since then, the Initiative has increased access for people with disabilities through technology, provided additional educational opportunities for youth, and integrated more Americans into the workforce. My Administration remains committed to empowering all people to reach their full educational, social, and professional goals. To learn more about the Federal Government's disability-related programs, please visit DisabilityInfo.gov.

To recognize the contributions of Americans with disabilities and to encourage all citizens to ensure equal opportunity in the workforce, the Congress has designated October of each year (36 U.S.C. 121) as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month."

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 2008 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. I call upon Government officials, labor leaders, employers, and the people of the United

States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 3, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on October 6.

Proclamation 8299—National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, 2008

October 1, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Our Nation has a moral obligation to work to prevent domestic violence and address its brutal and destructive effects. During National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we underscore our commitment to helping individuals across our country who face such devastating violence.

My Administration remains dedicated to eradicating domestic violence and helping victims find the compassion, comfort, and healing they need. In 2003, I announced the creation of the Family Justice Center Initiative to help local communities provide comprehensive services at one location for victims of domestic violence. In 2006, I was proud to sign legislation that reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act to improve criminal justice responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The Department of Justice's Domestic Violence Transitional Housing Assistance Program also offers victims of violence counseling and transitional housing services so they can escape the cycle of abuse.

During this month, we rededicate ourselves to protecting vulnerable members of our society and ensuring domestic abusers are punished to the full extent of the law. We encourage victims of domestic violence and their families to seek assistance through Family Justice Centers and the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1–800–799–SAFE. Together, we can help heal hearts and build a culture in which all Americans can pursue their dreams and realize the great promise of our Nation.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 2008, as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. I urge all Americans to reach out to victims of domestic violence and take action to make ending domestic violence a national priority.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 3, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on October 6.

Remarks at the 2008 United Service Organizations World Gala

October 1, 2008

Thank you all. Please be seated. Thank you very much. I'm proud to be here on this special night. The USO sure knows how to make a fellow feel at home; after all, that's what you've been doing for six decades. You've been making those who wear our uniform feel at home, providing them a home away from home while they defend our Nation overseas. Through many conflicts across many continents, the USO has formed a warm and loving bond with the men and women who wear our uniform. And you know what I know: They are our finest citizens, and we owe them a debt that can never be repaid.

This job comes with plenty of privileges. I haven't seen a traffic jam in 7¾ years. [*Laughter*] But no perk bestowed on a President is more satisfying than the honorary title

of USO. President 41 understands that as well.

I don't know if you know this or not, but my dad and I were not the only members of my family affiliated with the USO. It turns out my grandfather, Senator Prescott S. Bush, was one of the very first chairmen of the USO—and his title wasn't even honorary. [*Laughter*]

During this time of war, I've had the opportunity to witness the USO's good works firsthand. I want to thank you for your commitment to our troops and for your energy and enthusiasm and for your devotion to our wonderful country.

I do want to thank Sloan Gibson for leading this fantastic organization and for the kind introduction. I thank Ned Powell, the outgoing president; Bill Moll, chairman of USO world board of governors. I thank all the governors for joining tonight and for working for this fantastic organization.

I welcome the Members of Congress—you got a little work to do. [*Laughter*] I do want to congratulate my friend Senator John Warner, who won the Spirit of USO Award—no finer Member of the United States Senate than John Warner.

I am proud to be here with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen, and his wife, Deborah; the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, General Jim "Hoss" Cartwright; the Commandant of the Coast Guard, Admiral Thad Allen.

I appreciate the other military leaders, members of the Armed Forces, and their families who are here tonight. I am some kind of proud to be your Commander in Chief.

I had the honor of having my picture taken with the USO award recipients and their families, and I congratulate them on setting such a fine example.

I extend my deepest sympathies and my highest respect to the wounded warriors from Walter Reed and Bethesda who are here tonight. I welcome the members of the diplomatic corps.

And I have taken note of the master of ceremonies—God, I miss you, Sam. [*Laughter*] Well, not really. [*Laughter*]

The USO was established in 1941, as our allies were fighting for their survival against powerful armies driven by toxic ideologies. As Americans heard the approaching thunder of war, we were undertaking every effort to be ready. Young men would soon offer their lives in freedom's defense. And as they deployed to theaters of battle around the world, they could count on the USO to follow.

Once we entered World War II, the newly established USO was given an urgent mission: to coordinate civilian war efforts, enlist communities in the fight, and give our forces all the love, care, and support we could offer. And this was vital to our eventual victory. As General Eisenhower put it: "Morale is the greatest single factor in a successful war." USO centers in thousands of communities were quickly established in churches and storefronts, railroad cars and museums, mansions and yacht clubs. These centers helped families stay in contact with loved ones going off to fight in the war. And the USO enlisted the biggest celebrities of the age to show their support for the troops overseas.

Legendary stars made dangerous treks. Entertainers like Marlene Dietrich, Fred Astaire, Diana [Dinah] * Shore, John Wayne, and many others offered the troops their talents, brought memories of joy—brought moments of joy and laughter, and memories of home. Looking back on these war-torn days, a former serviceman once said: "I'll never forget the USO's positive impact during those dark and perilous times." Well, that statement holds a special meaning to me because it was uttered by Navy pilot George H.W. Bush.

Dad's generation was the first to find strength and solace in the USO, but thankfully, it was not the last. The USO has been on duty whenever America has been deployed in conflict. One memorable moment came in the USO's notable history in 1954—Marilyn Monroe interrupted her honeymoon with Joe DiMaggio to perform for the troops in Korea. As she stood before a sea of soldiers, one officer called her the greatest hit the Yankee Clipper ever made. [*Laughter*] One awestruck sergeant who had the privilege of driving her around couldn't help but note that: "In my 14 years of Army driving, this will be the most curves I've ever taken

* White House correction.

in one car." [*Laughter*] Marilyn Monroe performed in sub-zero temperatures and became ill as a result, yet she called her visit with the troops the best thing that ever happened to her.

No celebrity is more closely associated with the USO than the man who was first introduced to the troops as a relatively unknown radio entertainer. Over the decades, Bob Hope became known to everyone. After a quarter century performing for the USO, he estimated that he had traveled 2 million miles to entertain 11 million troops. He loved every minute of it, including the traveling partners he was able to recruit. As he put it: "How else would I get to travel with Lana Turner, Ann-Margret, and Raquel Welch, and have my wife wish me, 'Bon voyage'?" [*Laughter*]

Bob Hope's love for the troops won America's lasting respect. In 1963, President Kennedy presented him with the Congressional Gold Medal in recognition of his service to the troops. At the ceremony, Hope told him: "I feel very humble, but I think I have the strength of character to fight it." [*Laughter*] Bob Hope liked to joke about Hollywood's reputation for self-involvement. But the truth is that he took his responsibility to the troops very seriously. He was proud of the chance to make them feel better, at least for a while. And he once said that whenever the troops applauded, it was the best sound in the world.

We may never have an entertainer so closely linked to the USO, but we can be grateful that a new generation of performers is stepping forward to support our men and women in uniform. Some of these generous entertainers are with us tonight. Many of you have gone to dangerous war zones to support our troops. And your love and support has made a world of difference. I think we all know the moment things began to turn around in Iraq: It was when the USO decided to deploy Jessica Simpson. [*Laughter*]

As Commander in Chief, I greatly appreciate all the entertainers supporting the USO. I thank you for what you're doing, and I encourage more to step forward and join you.

And I appreciate the thousands of USO volunteers who are supporting the war effort and lifting morale. These volunteers are providing vital aid to members of America's Armed Forces in service centers around the world. They're helping our troops get in touch with their loved ones back at home. They're easing the burdens on our military families by offering them an open hand and a shoulder to lean on.

To all the supporters of the USO: Our Nation is grateful for your dedication to our men and women in uniform. I join you in prayer for the safety of our troops and the success of their missions. May the USO continue to stand with our troops in times of war, and may we all live to see a world that stands in peace.

Thank you for having me, and God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:21 p.m. at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Sloan D. Gibson IV, president and chief executive officer, USO; Sam Donaldson, correspondent, ABC News, in his capacity as master of ceremonies for the 2008 USO World Gala; actresses Ann-Margret Olsson and Raquel Welch; and entertainer Jessica Simpson.

Remarks Following a Meeting With Business Leaders on Economic Stabilization

October 2, 2008

I want to thank the job creators who have joined me here today to talk about the state of the economy and the need for the House of Representatives to pass the bill that passed the Senate last night with an overwhelming bipartisan majority.

Our discussion today centered around credit. I know there's a lot of discussions in the newspapers and on TV about the credit freeze. Well, let me tell you what this means. It means that if you're running a small company, and you need to make payroll, or you need to make sure you got inventory to be able to sell a product, or you want to expand so you can hire somebody, you need to have credit. You need to be able to have money on a regular basis from your local banker.

And the problem is, because people are worried about the future, they're worried the Government won't act, credit is frozen. People aren't lending money from bank to bank,

or they're not lending money to our medium- and small-sized businesses.

And that means people's jobs are in jeopardy. And the bill that's before the House of Representatives tomorrow is a bill that has got the best chance of providing liquidity, providing credit, providing money so small businesses and medium-sized businesses can function.

A lot of people are watching the House of Representatives now to determine whether or not they will be able to act positively on a bill that has been improved. People say, "What do you mean by that?" Well, the insurance for the FDIC goes up to $250,000. That's an improvement to the legislation, not only for banks but for credit unions as well.

And so I'm talking to people who are, you know, who come from the heartland, that understand what's taking place in our economy today; people who understand that the House of Representatives needs to pass this piece of legislation.

And I want to thank you all for going up and telling these Members of Congress what's on your mind and how this affects your businesses at home and how it affects the communities in which you live. This thing—this issue has gone way beyond New York and Wall Street. This is an issue that's affecting hard-working people. They're worried about their savings; they're worried about their jobs; they're worried about their houses; they're worried about their small businesses. And the House of Representatives must listen to these voices and get this bill passed so we can get about the business of restoring confidence.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:36 a.m. in Room 350 of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building. In his remarks, he referred to H.R. 1424. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Statement on Senate Confirmation of General David D. McKiernan as Commander of United States Armed Forces in Afghanistan

October 2, 2008

Today the Senate confirmed General David D. McKiernan as commander of U.S. forces, Afghanistan. This newly created position and realignment of the command structure provides General McKiernan authority over nearly all U.S. forces in Afghanistan, ensuring greater coordination in operational planning and execution. General McKiernan will continue to serve as commander of the International Security Assistance Force.

General McKiernan's new responsibilities will strengthen both U.S. and NATO efforts in Afghanistan. I congratulate General McKiernan on his confirmation and commend the Senate for its quick action on this important nomination.

Statement on Senate Confirmation of James Jeffrey as the United States Ambassador to Turkey

October 2, 2008

I am pleased that the Senate confirmed Jim Jeffrey to be the United States Ambassador to Turkey. Jim is a man of intellect, integrity, and commitment. His work as my Deputy National Security Adviser, as United States Ambassador to Albania, and in three previous assignments to Turkey make him superbly qualified to represent the United States to our friend and NATO ally.

I thank Jim for his continued service to our Nation and congratulate him and his family on today's confirmation.

Message to the Congress Extending the Period of Production of the Naval Petroleum Reserve

October 2, 2008

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with section 7422(c)(2) of title 10, United States Code, I am informing you of my decision to extend the period of production of the Naval Petroleum Reserves for

a period of 3 years from April 5, 2009, the expiration date of the currently authorized period of production.

Attached is a copy of the report investigating continued production of the Reserves, consistent with section 7422(c)(2)(B) of title 10. In light of the findings contained in the report, I certify that continued production from the Naval Petroleum Reserves is in the national interest.

George W. Bush

The White House,
October 2, 2008.

Remarks on Economic Stabilization Legislation

October 3, 2008

A short time ago, the House of Representatives passed a bill that is essential to helping America's economy weather the financial crisis; the Senate passed the same legislation on Wednesday night. And when Congress sends me the final bill, I'm going to sign it into law.

There were moments this week when some thought the Federal Government could not rise to the challenge. But thanks to the hard work of members of both parties in both Houses—and the spirit of cooperation between Capitol Hill and my administration—we completed this bill in a timely manner. I'm especially grateful for the contributions of Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader John Boehner, Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, Minority Whip Roy Blunt, Chairman Barney Frank, Ranking Member Spencer Bachus.

By coming together on this legislation, we have acted boldly to help prevent the crisis on Wall Street from becoming a crisis in communities across our country. We have shown the world that the United States of America will stabilize our financial markets and maintain a leading role in the global economy.

A major problem in our financial system is that banks have restricted the flow of credit to businesses and consumers; many of the assets these banks are holding have lost value. The legislation Congress passed today addresses this problem head on by providing a variety of new tools to the Government, such as allowing us to purchase some of the troubled assets and creating a new government insurance program that will guarantee the value of others. The bill also ensures that these new programs are carried out in a way that protects taxpayers. It prevents failed executives from receiving windfalls from taxpayers' dollars. It establishes a bipartisan board to oversee the plan's implementation.

Taken together, these steps represent decisive action to ease the credit crunch that is now threatening our economy. With a smoother flow of credit, more businesses will be able to stock their shelves and meet their payrolls; more families will be able to get loans for cars and homes and college education; more State and local governments will be able to fund basic services.

The bill includes other provisions to help American consumers and businesses. It includes tax incentives for businesses to invest and create jobs. It temporarily expands Federal insurance for bank and credit union deposits from $100,000 to $250,000, a vital safeguard for consumers and small businesses. It provides families with relief from the Alternative Minimum Tax, which would otherwise increase taxes for 26 million taxpayers by an average of $2,200.

I know some Americans have concerns about this legislation, especially about the Government's role and the bill's cost. As a strong supporter of free enterprise, I believe government intervention should occur only when necessary. In this situation, action is clearly necessary. And ultimately, the cost to taxpayers will be far less than the initial outlay. See, the Government will purchase troubled assets and once the market recovers, it is likely that many of the assets will go up in value. And over time, Americans should expect that much, if not all, of the tax dollars we invest will be paid back.

Americans should also expect that it will take some time for this legislation to have its full impact on our economy. Exercising the authorities in this bill in a responsible way will require a careful analysis and deliberation. This will be done as expeditiously as possible, but it cannot be accomplished overnight. We'll take the time necessary to design an effective program that achieves its

objectives and does not waste taxpayer dollars.

Our economy continues to face serious challenges. This morning we learned that America lost jobs again in September, disappointing news that underscores the urgency of the bill that Congress passed today. It will take more time and determined effort to get through this difficult period. But with confidence and leadership and bipartisan cooperation, we'll overcome the challenges we face, return our Nation to a path of growth and job creation and long-term economic prosperity.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:03 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to H.R. 1424, approved October 3, which was assigned Public Law No. 110–343. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Remarks Following a Visit to the Treasury Department

October 3, 2008

The President. I just had the honor of talking to Treasury Department employees. I thanked them for their hard work over the past 6 weeks in dealing with a serious financial crisis.

I do want to thank the Secretary too. Mr. Secretary, you and your team have worked incredibly hard. You've worked with the Congress; you've worked with the financial markets, both domestically and internationally. I know that your people are exhausted in there, and I'm—really appreciate the fact that I'm going to sign a piece of legislation that'll be a part of solving this crisis, an important part of solving the crisis.

And so I just went up to thank people. Sometimes people in government never get thanked enough for all the hours they keep. And I've got a lot of confidence in you, Mr. Secretary, and your team. And I want to thank you for giving me a chance to come by, and looking forward to getting this plan in place. I just told the people in the Rose Garden that, you know, it's complicated, and we're going to make sure that whatever we do is done in a deliberate fashion, and one that will be effective and be mindful of the taxpayers. Appreciate serving with you.

Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson, Jr. Thank you very much.

The President. Appreciate serving with you. Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:38 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to H.R. 1424, approved October 3, which was assigned Public Law No. 110–343. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Proclamation 8300—Child Health Day, 2008

October 3, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Americans have a duty to promote the health and safety of our children. On Child Health Day, we affirm that all children are a precious gift, and we underscore our commitment to helping them realize their full potential.

Families are the foundation of our society, and parents play the vital role of providing stability, guidance, and discipline so children can lead healthy lives. Teachers, caregivers, and mentors can also help teach children about the importance of making good choices. All Americans can help our Nation's youth become healthy and responsible adults by encouraging them to avoid risky behaviors such as early sexual activity, drugs, alcohol, and violence.

My Administration remains dedicated to helping younger generations achieve their dreams by supporting programs that encourage children to maintain healthy and active lifestyles. The Helping America's Youth initiative, led by First Lady Laura Bush, is helping children make smart decisions so they can confront challenges and live longer and better lives. The HealthierUS initiative encourages positive habits and addresses public health issues facing our Nation's youth, such as childhood obesity. Through the President's Challenge, we are promoting personal

fitness and encouraging youth to stay active beyond the school gym. Through these and other efforts, we can make our country stronger by teaching children the importance of healthy choices.

The Congress, by a joint resolution approved May 18, 1928, as amended (36 U.S.C. 105), has called for the designation of the first Monday in October as "Child Health Day" and has requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 6, 2008, as Child Health Day. I call upon families, schools, child health professionals, faith-based and community organizations, and State and local governments to reach out to our Nation's young people, encourage them to avoid dangerous behavior, and help them make the right choices to achieve their dreams.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

Americans have a duty to promote the health and safety of our children. On Child Health Day, we affirm that all children are a precious gift, and we underscore our commitment to helping them realize their full potential.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:30 a.m., October 6, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on October 7.

Proclamation 8301—German-American Day, 2008

October 3, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

For generations, German Americans have contributed to our Nation's identity, culture, and prosperity. On German-American Day, we recognize the many Americans with German ancestry who helped make our country great, and we celebrate our strong friendship with Germany.

The people of Germany and the United States share important family and cultural ties, and millions of American citizens are of German descent. Some of their forebears were among the first to settle Jamestown, and they and many others like them helped lay the foundation for our country, which has become the most prominent symbol of freedom in the world. Many German Americans have shaped our way of life and added to our country's rich heritage.

In celebrating German-American Day, we honor generations of German Americans who came to our shores with dreams of opportunity and contributed to the greatness of our country.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 6, 2008, as German-American Day. I encourage all Americans to celebrate the many contributions German Americans have made to our Nation's liberty and prosperity.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:30 a.m., October 6, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on October 7.

Proclamation 8302—Fire Prevention Week, 2008

October 3, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Fire Prevention Week is an opportunity to call attention to the importance of fire safety, especially in the home, and to honor our Nation's firefighters for their heroism.

Americans can help reduce home fires by taking simple steps such as regularly inspecting furnaces and fireplaces, keeping space heaters at least 3 feet from flammable materials, and checking the condition of electrical cords. Making sure that smoke alarms and fire extinguishers work can also help minimize the impact of home and building fires. I encourage all Americans to remember this year's theme—"It's Fire Prevention Week: Prevent Home Fires!"—and to check their homes for fire hazards to help prevent disasters.

Across our Nation, firefighters put themselves at risk to protect our communities, and their selfless dedication has saved countless lives. America's Bravest hold a cherished place in our hearts, and we honor those who have paid the ultimate price to protect citizens in harm's way. The sacrifice of these men and women is an inspiration to all and epitomizes the true meaning of heroism.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 5 through October 11, 2008, as Fire Prevention Week. On Sunday, October 5, 2008, in accordance with Public Law 107–51, the flag of the United States will be flown at half staff on all Federal office buildings in honor of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service. I call on all Americans to participate in this observance through appropriate programs and activities and by renewing their efforts to prevent fires and their tragic consequences.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 7, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on October 8.

Memorandum on Unexpected Urgent Humanitarian Needs Related to Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Georgia

October 3, 2008

Presidential Determination No. 2009–01

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Unexpected Urgent Humanitarian Needs Related to Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Georgia

By the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including sections 2 and 4(a)(1) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962 (the "Act"), as amended, (22 U.S.C. 2601 and 2603) and section 301 of title 3, United States Code:

(1) I hereby determine, pursuant to section 2(c)(1) of the Act, that it is important to the national interest to furnish assistance under the Act, in an amount not to exceed $8.3 million from the United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund, for the purpose of meeting unexpected and urgent refugee and migration needs in Pakistan and Afghanistan resulting from intensified armed conflict and flooding, and in Georgia due to recent violence, including by contributions to international, governmental, and nongovernmental organizations, and payment of administrative expenses of the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration of the Department of State; and

(2) The functions of the President in relation to this memorandum under section 2(d) of the Act, and of establishing terms and conditions under section 2(c)(1) of the Act, are assigned to you, and you may further assign such functions to your subordinates, consistent with applicable law.

You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

Memorandum on Designation of Officers of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence To Act as Director of National Intelligence

October 3, 2008

Memorandum for the Director of National Intelligence

Subject: Designation of Officers of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence To Act as Director of National Intelligence

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, 5 U.S.C. 3345 *et seq.*, it is hereby ordered that:

Section 1. Subject to the provisions of sections 2 and 3 of this memorandum, the following officers of the office of the Director of National Intelligence, in the order listed, shall act as and perform the functions and duties of the office of the Director of National Intelligence (DNI), during any period in which the DNI and the Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence have died, resigned, or otherwise become unable to perform the functions and duties of the office of the DNI, until such time as the DNI or the Principal Deputy Director is able to perform the functions and duties of the office of DNI:

(a) Director of the Intelligence Staff;

(b) Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Policy, Plans, and Requirements;

(c) Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Analysis;

(d) Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Collection;

(e) Director of the National Counterterrorism Center; and

(f) National Counterintelligence Executive.

Sec. 2. *National Security Act of 1947.* This memorandum shall not supersede the authority of the Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence to act for, and exercise the powers of, the Director of National Intelligence during the absence or disability of the Director of National Intelligence or during a vacancy in the position of Director of National Intelligence (National Security Act of 1947, as amended, 50 U.S.C. 403–3a).

Sec. 3. *Exceptions.* (a) No individual who is serving in an office listed in section 1 in an acting capacity, by virtue of so serving, shall act as DNI pursuant to this memorandum.

(b) No individual listed in section 1 shall act as DNI unless that individual is otherwise eligible to so serve under the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this memorandum, the President retains discretion, to the extent permitted by law, to depart from this memorandum in designating an acting DNI.

Sec. 4. This memorandum supersedes the President's memorandum of December 20, 2005 (Designation of Officers of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence to Act as Director of National Intelligence).

Sec. 5. This memorandum is intended to improve the internal management of the executive branch and is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its agencies, instrumentalities, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

Sec. 6. You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 7, 2008]

NOTE: This memorandum will be published in the *Federal Register* on October 8.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

September 27

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, on the South Lawn, he and Mrs. Bush participated in commemorative tree planting ceremonies with their daughter Jenna and her husband, Henry Hager.

September 29

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had separate telephone conversations with several Republican Members of Congress to discuss proposed economic stabilization legislation.

The President announced his intention to nominate G. David Banks to be Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (International Activities).

The President announced his intention to nominate David Kelly to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at the Department of Transportation.

The President announced his intention to appoint Brent R. Benjamin as a member of the Cultural Property Advisory Committee.

September 30

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had separate telephone conversations with Republican Presidential nominee John McCain and Democrat Presidential nominee Barack Obama to discuss proposed economic stabilization legislation.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert W. McGowan to be a Governor of the Board of Governors of the U.S. Postal Service.

October 1

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had separate telephone conversations with several Members of Congress to discuss proposed economic stabilization legislation. He then had several meetings with his economic advisers.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Secretary of the Treasury Henry M. Paulson, Jr., and Chairman of the Federal Reserve Ben S. Bernanke to discuss the financial markets and proposed economic stabilization legislation.

In the evening, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of India to discuss the passage of H.R. 7081, the United States-India Nuclear Cooperation Approval and Nonproliferation Enhancement Act.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Ivan Gasparovic of Slovakia to the White House on October 9.

The President declared a major disaster in Puerto Rico and ordered Federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding beginning on September 21 and continuing.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jonathan R. Scharfen to be Director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services at the Department of Homeland Security.

The President announced his intention to designate F. Chase Hutto III as Acting Assistant Secretary of Energy (International Affairs and Domestic Policy).

October 2

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

During the day, the President had separate telephone conversations with several Members of the House of Representatives to discuss proposed economic stabilization legislation.

October 3

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, at the Treasury Department, the President met with Secretary of the Treasury Henry M. Paulson, Jr., and Treasury Department employees. Later, he traveled to St. Louis, MO, where, at a private residence, he attended a Hulshof for Governor dinner.

During the day, the President had separate telephone conversations with several Members of Congress to discuss proposed economic stabilization legislation.

In the evening, the President traveled to the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Tillman Thomas of Grenada to the White House on October 8.

The President declared a major disaster in New Hampshire and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding on September 6–7.

The President declared a major disaster in Illinois and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding beginning on September 13 and continuing.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted September 29

G. David Banks,
of Missouri, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, vice Judith Elizabeth Ayres, resigned.

David Kelly,
of New York, to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, vice Nicole R. Nason, resigned.

Submitted September 30

Robert W. McGowan,
of Nevada, to be a Governor of the U.S. Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2015, vice Alan Craig Kessler, term expiring.

Submitted October 1

Jonathan R. Scharfen,
of Virginia, to be Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, vice Emilio T. Gonzalez.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released September 29

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy Press Secretary Tony Fratto

Fact sheet: A Strong Bipartisan Proposal To Stabilize Our Financial System

Released September 30

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy Press Secretary Tony Fratto

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 1777 and H.R. 6984

Released October 1

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy Press Secretary Tony Fratto

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary: Visit of President Ivan Gasparovic of the Slovak Republic

Statements by the Deputy Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 2608, S. 171, S. 2339, S. 3009, and S. 3241

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Puerto Rico

Released October 2

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy Press Secretary Tony Fratto

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 5551, H.R. 5893, and S. 996

Released October 3

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy Press Secretary Tony Fratto

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary: Visit by Prime Minister Tillman Thomas of Grenada

Statements by the Deputy Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 1424, H.R. 3986, S. 1760, S. 2135, S.J. Res. 35, and S.J. Res. 45

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary on disaster assistance to New Hampshire

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Illinois

Fact sheet: Safeguarding the Financial Future of American Workers and Families

Fact sheet: Hunting, Wildlife, and Habitat

Acts Approved by the President

Approved September 30

H.R. 1777 / Public Law 110–327
Need-Based Educational Aid Act of 2008

H.R. 2608 / Public Law 110–328
SSI Extension for Elderly and Disabled Refugees Act

H.R. 2638 / Public Law 110–329
Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009

H.R. 6984 / Public Law 110–330
Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2008, Part II

S. 171 / Public Law 110–331
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Commerce Street in Commerce, Oklahoma, as the "Mickey Mantle Post Office Building"

S. 2339 / Public Law 110–332
To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs clinic in Alpena, Michigan, as the "Lieutenant Colonel Clement C. Van Wagoner Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic"

S. 3241 / Public Law 110–333
To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1717 Orange Avenue in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the "CeeCee Ross Lyles Post Office Building"

Approved October 1

S. 3009 / Public Law 110–334
To designate the Federal Bureau of Investigation building under construction in Omaha, Nebraska, as the "J. James Exon Federal Bureau of Investigation Building"

Approved October 2

H.R. 5551 / Public Law 110–335
To amend title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, to implement the increase provided under the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2008, in the amount of funds made available for the compensation of attorneys representing indigent defendants in the District of Columbia courts, and for other purposes

H.R. 5893 / Public Law 110–336
Library of Congress Sound Recording and Film Preservation Programs Reauthorization Act of 2008

S. 996 / Public Law 110–337
To amend title 49, United States Code, to expand passenger facility fee eligibility for certain noise compatibility projects

Approved October 3

H.R. 3986 / Public Law 110–338
John F. Kennedy Center Reauthorization Act of 2008

S. 1760 / Public Law 110–339
Healthy Start Reauthorization Act of 2007

S. 2135 / Public Law 110–340
Child Soldiers Accountability Act of 2008

S.J. Res. 35 / Public Law 110–341
To amend Public Law 108–331 to provide for the construction and related activities in support of the Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System (VERITAS) project in Arizona

S.J. Res. 45 / Public Law 110–342
Expressing the consent and approval of Congress to an interstate compact regarding water resources in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin

H.R. 1424 / Public Law 110–343
To provide authority for the Federal Government to purchase and insure certain types of troubled assets for the purposes of providing stability to and preventing disruption in the economy and financial system and protecting taxpayers, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for energy production and conservation, to extend certain expiring provisions, to provide individual income tax relief, and for other purposes

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